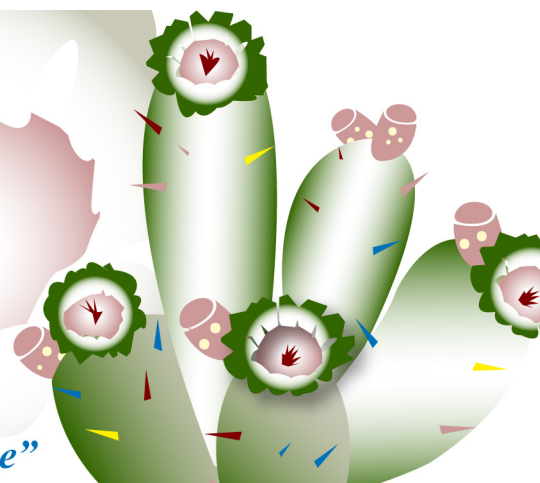




Cactus Chronicle

*"Glendale –
Proud to be the home of Luke Air Force Base"*



Councilmember Phil Lieberman, Glendale Arizona

December 3, 2011

GLENDALE REDEDICATES AIR FORCE JET AT CITY PARK - JOIN US THURSDAY, 1 P.M.

Thanks to a \$5,000 city-funded contribution from Glendale City Councilmember Phil Lieberman and some dedicated volunteers, the F-100D Super Sabre, nicknamed "The Hun," displayed at Bonsall Park has been refurbished and will be rededicated on Dec. 15 to the military veterans of Arizona who have served our country.

The rededication ceremony will begin at 1 p.m. and feature comments from city dignitaries including Glendale's Mayor Elaine Scruggs and councilmembers Norma Alvarez and Phil Lieberman. Also attending will be special guests from Luke Air Force Base and Warren H. Rice, a fighter pilot that actually flew this F-100. The public is invited to attend as well. The

The F-100 at Bonsall Park served at Luke AFB from 1962 to 1969 where it was responsible for training young fighter pilots. Along with Arizona, this jet was deployed from California, Japan, Korea, Nevada and South Dakota. In 1971 the aircraft was dropped from air force inventory and transferred to museum status. It was installed at Bonsall Park in 1973. This year marks the 40th anniversary the plane was removed from active use and placed into the National Museum of the United States Air Force Static Display Program.

The plane was refurbished earlier this year. The complete facelift took more than 30 days to complete and involved removing the old paint and finish and giving the jet a new high-tech paint application and updated identification. A special group of volunteers have helped considerably with the restoration project. Lt. Col. Marc "Dutch" Matthews, Arizona Air National Guard, and Lt. Col. & Mrs. David J. Kempson, Arizona Air National Guard, researched the flight history and background of the plane and are helping with fundraising efforts.

"The visual impact the jet has on visitors and citizens of Glendale is a tremendous reminder of the sacrifices that our military have made and continue to make today," commented Karen Hesser, parks and recreation deputy director. "The personal commitment of the volunteers with the support of the city of Glendale to restore the jet to its original luster reflects the dedication to keeping these symbols in the forefront of our community."

A fund has been created to support the annual maintenance of the fighter plane to preserve and maintain it for future generations to enjoy. Donations are being accepted; call Michelle Yates at 623-930-2044 or myates@glendaleaz.com for more information.

Bonsall Park is located at 59th Avenue and Bethany Home Road. For more information about Glendale's parks, please visit www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation.

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